

3 April 1969

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Meeting with Senator John McClellan (D. , Ark. )**

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1. On this date, Messrs. Maury and  met with Senator John McClellan (D. , Ark. ) to take up two items with him: the continuation of Agency briefings of the Senator which were begun during the visit which he and Senator Henry Jackson (D. , Wash. ) paid the Agency on Saturday, 1 March (we specifically mentioned that we thought he would be interested in hearing from Mr. Duckett on our scientific and other technical activities) and the Agency's problems with the Ervin bill (S. 782).
2. Senator McClellan said he really wanted to resume the briefings and would force himself to include this in his schedule after the Easter recess. He indicated that Saturday morning was the best time for him to do things like this but expressed concern over the possibility of inconveniencing Agency officials by having them called in just to brief him. He also said that since he did not drive he did not like to impose on anyone to provide transportation for him but he felt briefings like this could best be dealt with at the Agency rather than in his office. Mr. Maury assured the Senator that our people were most anxious to talk with him and in many instances these people were in their offices on Saturday morning anyway. He added that providing transportation posed no problem. We will follow up on this with the Senator after the Easter recess.
3. Senator McClellan reacted almost immediately when Senator Ervin's bill was mentioned, saying he was very much opposed to it and that we would not have to convince him that it was a bad bill. He said he felt that some Government departments such as the Bureau of the Census pried unduly into personal lives of people but that sensitive Agencies such as the FBI, the CIA and similar organizations must know about the personal activities and habits of their employees to whom sensitive national security information is entrusted.

4. We outlined briefly the provisions of the bill which caused us particular concern but did not deal with them in any great depth in view of the Senator's favorable attitude toward our position. He did express interest, however, in our use of the polygraph and this was explained to him in some detail. It was pointed out that the polygraph was used solely as an investigative aid and was not considered to be conclusive in and of itself. We made it clear, however, that it had been of considerable use to the Agency in uncovering information which would otherwise have been undetected in a field investigation.

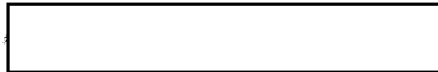
5. Senator McClellan was interested in the steps which have been taken by the Director and other Agency officials in attempting to explain to Senator Ervin exactly what the Agency's problems are regarding this legislation. We reviewed not only the steps which have been taken this year but also our efforts in the 90th Congress and the history of S. 1035 in the Senate and the House. Senator McClellan said he felt that since Senator Ervin had refused to grant us an opportunity for an appropriate hearing before the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, the Director should write a letter to Senator Russell requesting an opportunity to discuss this matter before the CIA Subcommittees. Senator McClellan feels that these Subcommittees have an obligation to assist the Agency in this regard. We pointed out that the Director had discussed this problem with Senators Russell and Stennis and they felt that we should concentrate our efforts on the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee members and especially on him, since he is a member of both the Constitutional Rights and the CIA Subcommittees. Senator McClellan seemed to feel that since we had been refused by Senator Ervin we should "build a record" of our opposition to this bill in our own Subcommittee forum.

6. He went on to say that he thought we should make contact with certain key senators. He included in this list Senator Eastland (we advised him that Eastland was opposed to the bill) and Senators Hruska, Thurmond, and Dirksen. While not being too specific on this point, Senator McClellan appeared to feel that the support of these members would be effective when the bill was considered in full committee if we were unable to accomplish our purposes in the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee.

7. We thanked the Senator for giving us an opportunity to discuss this matter with him and appreciated his suggestions. There is no question but that Senator McClellan is solid as a rock and is on our side in this issue. Following our meeting with the Senator we met all of his key staff members including his Administrative Assistant, "Buddy" Whiteaker, his Legislative Assistant, Winston Bryant, and his Private Secretary, Jeannine Ragland. We spent some time talking with Mr. Bryant on the subject of S. 782 and will provide him with some back up papers regarding our problems with this bill.

8. Following our meeting with Senator McClellan, we happened to see Bill Woodruff of the Senate Appropriations staff. We mentioned to Woodruff McClellan's suggestion that the Director write a letter to Senator Russell requesting an opportunity to discuss the S. 782 problem before the CIA Subcommittees. Woodruff was pressed for time and asked that we discuss this further with him before writing such a letter.

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Deputy Legislative Counsel

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**OLC/GLC:gs(7 April 1969)**